27-1528

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

PIERCE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY (PC-66-11a)

T19NR6ES18

1. **NAME**
Historic: South Prairie Town Hall 30274

and/or Common:

2. **LOCATION**

Street & Number: Northside Washington Street

UTM References: Buckley 1:24000
Zone 10 Easting 568410
Northing 5220860
- not for publication

City, Town: South Prairie - vicinity of

State: Washington

County: Pierce

3. **CLASSIFICATION**

Ownership:	public	private	both		
Status:	occupied	unoccupied	work in progress		
Present Use:	agriculture	commercial	educational	entertainment	government
	industrial	military	museum	park	private residence
	religious	scientific	transportation	other:	

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**

Name: PRIVATE PROPERTY

Street & Number:

City, Town: - vicinity of

State:

5. **MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

William Pierce Bonney. History of Pierce County. Chicago, 1927.
Auditor's Annual Exhibit of Finances of Pierce County, Washington. Tacoma, 1910.
Taped interview with Geannie Kuranko, South Prairie Historian (Caroline Gallacci, August 20, 1980).
Works Progress Administration Papers, Writers Project. Washington State Historical Society Library, Tacoma, Washington.

6. **FORM PREPARED BY**

Name/Title: Caroline Gallacci

Organization: Office of Community Development

Date: January, 1982

Street & Number: 2401 South 35th Street

Telephone: 593-4003

City or Town: Tacoma

State: WA 98409

III-171

CD 018 (12 80)

7. **DESCRIPTION**

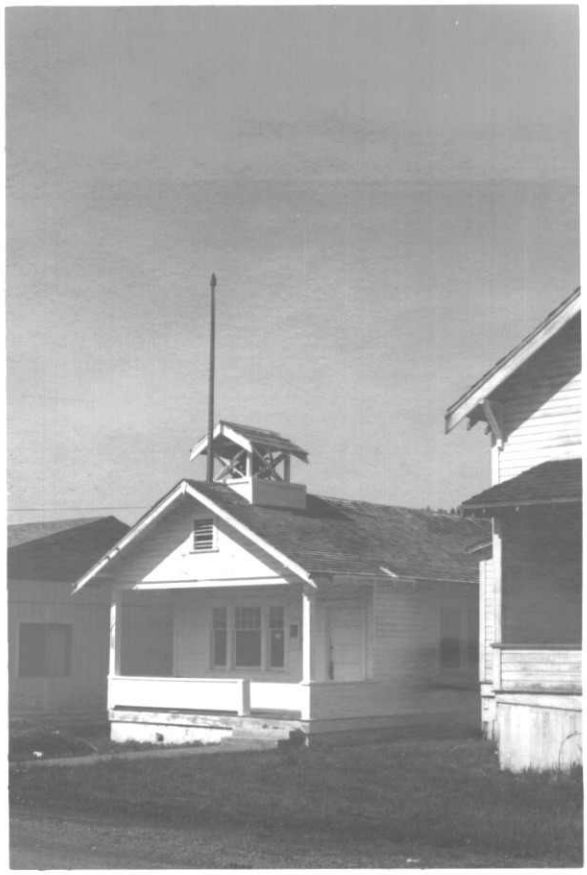
Condition: excellent good fair

Circle one: unaltered altered

Circle one: original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if kno
attach photo

A one story wood frame building with gable roof and rectangular vent in the gable end. There is an open cupola bell tower on the front ridge of the roof. A flag pole is in front of it. The windows are four and eight over one double hung. The recessed porch has post supports resting on an enclosed railing.



Verbal boundary descr

Acreage:

8. **SIGNIFICANCE**

Specific dates Builder/Architect

a. History

b. Evaluation of Significance When Paul Emery filed his Donation Land Claim in 1855, he named this area South Prairie because of its location south of Connell's Prairie. While Fort McAllister was established on the prairie in 1856, it was not until 1877 that settlement activity increased when the Northern Pacific Railroad constructed a line from Tacoma to Wilkeson. South Prairie became a major junction (Cascade Junction) when the transcontinental line was completed in 1887 - 1888. Francis Bisson filed a plat for the town in 1888; it incorporated in 1909. The Town of South Prairie evolved into a major supply center for agricultural, mining and logging settlements east of the Puyallup Valley. The properties included in the South Prairie inventory illustrate the role which the Town played in the development of eastern Pierce County from the end of the Nineteenth Century to the 1930's, when major industrial activity ceased in the area and the construction of the Palmer cutoff diverted the railroad line to southern King County.